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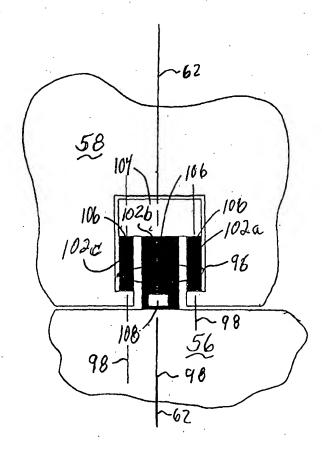
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(54) Title: MICROMACHINED MEMBERS COUPLED FOR RELATIVE ROTATION BY TORSIONAL FLEXURE HINGES

(57) Abstract

A monolithically fabricated micromachined structure couples a reference frame (56) to a dynamic plate (58). Performance of torsional oscillators or scanners benefits greatly by coupling the frame (56) to the plate (58) with folded torsional flexure hinges (96) rather than torsion bars. A folded torsion flexure hinge (96) for supporting the plate (58) from the frame (56) is made up of three basic hinge segments (102a, 102b, 102c). Each basic hinge segment (102a, 102b, 102c) has a longitudinal axis (98) which is not oriented perpendicular to the rotation axis (62) of the plate (58). An intermediaire region (104) of the folded torsional flexure hinge (96) couples together immediately adjacent ends (106) of the basic hinge segments (102a, 102b, 102c). A basic hinge segment (102b) may include a torsion sensor (108) for measuring angular rotation of the plate (58) about axis (62) with respect to the frame (56).



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International application No. PCT/US99-20218

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER							
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According to	o International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both	national classification and IPC					
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C. DOC	UMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT						
Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where ap	propriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.				
A, P	US 5,905,201 A (PETRI) 18 MAY document.	1999 (18/05/99), see entire	1-81				
Α	US 5,760,305 A (GREIFF) 02 JUNE document.	1998 (02/06/98), see entire	1-81				
A	US 5,650,568 A (GREIFF ET AL) 22 entire document.	2 JULY 1997 (22/07/97), see	1-81				
A	US 5,635,739 A (GREIFF ET AL) 03 entire document.	3 JUNE 1997 (03/06/97), see	1-81				
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